

MICU ADVISORY COUNCIL

June 11, 2001

MINUTES

- Call to Order:** (Dr. Nevins) The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. Recognition was made to the recipients who received a 2001 EMS Week Award. The luncheon was held on May 22, 2001 and was cosponsored by the EMS Advisory Council and OEMS. Dr. Nevins extended congratulation to Dr. Waxler for being named ACEP physician of the year and a proud new mother of a baby boy.
- Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the March 12, 2001 meeting were approved with a change to the EMS Council report reflecting the figure of 3.2 million dollars instead of 3.2 billion dollars.
- Future Planning:** (Dr. Brennan) A five-year plan utilizing outcome based studies through the EMS Council was discussed. The possible overuse of Versed® by MICU crews was discussed. The HCFA task force will be reconvening in the fall.
- Rapid Sequence Induction:** (Dr. Nevins) Dr. Nevins presented in the absence of Dr. Waxler. The third Train-the-Trainer class will be held on July 24, 2001 in Hurffville, Gloucester County. This session will begin promptly at 9 am and last till 4 pm. Directions will be e-mailed to the MICU Directors, Medical Directors and the MICU Educators. Please make sure that OEMS has those identified current e-mail address. RSVP should be made to Chuck McSweeney by July 20 at 5 pm.
- Base Station Physician Education:** (Dr. Nevins) Dr. Nevins presented in the absence of Dr. Waxler. The filming is complete and the video is in the editing process. The target date for New Jersey Network completion is July 24, 2001; delivery of the finished product is expected shortly after that date to OEMS. The tapes will be distributed along with the guidebooks that will accompany the tape presentation.
- Albuterol administration by Emergency Medical Technician-Basics:** (Dr. Brennan) Dr. Brennan presented in the absence of Dr. Markinson. New York City has been conducting a clinical trial that allowed BLS providers to carry Albuterol on the BLS ambulances and administer it to Asthmatics. Dr. Markinson would like to do a similar study in New Jersey. A straw poll of the physicians present showed that the majority of the physicians would be willing to review this study further. The study protocol will be mailed to all of the physicians and it will be discussed at the next Council meeting.
- Medications & Devices:** (Dr. Nevins) Dr. Nevins presented in the absence of Dr. Lahita. There was a discussion regarding the removal of the restriction for the use of IV Nitroglycerin from the MICU formulary. Due to the lack of a quorum, a vote was not ascertained. The consensus opinion of the medical directors present was unanimous; OEMS can remove the limitation in the new regulations. Dr. Nevins will place phone calls to the medical directors that were not present to get their feeling and encourage participation in future meetings. Ms. Halupke stated that this would be the first time OEMS has made a change in the regulations using a consensus rather a vote.

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- Standing Orders :** Dr. DesRochers reviewed and introduced new Standing Orders for Stable Narrow Complex Tachycardia, Unstable Narrow Complex Tachycardia, and Super Ventricular Tachycardia were introduced and discussed with the physicians present.
- (Dr. DesRochers)
- (Ms. Halupke) Due to the lack of time before OEMS publishes the new regulations and the lack of a Medical Directors quorum this will be the first time OEMS publishes regulations without a vote from the Council.
- (Dr. Nevins) A motion was approved to “Call all Medical Directors and encourage them to attend the Council meetings and to ascertain their opinion on the presented standing orders.”
- Legislation** (Ms. Caputo) The following bills, which have been previously discussed are still in committee: A106, S62, A2566 and S1386. The healthcare provider overtime limit bill has been sent back to the Assembly after being vetoed by the Governor. The New Jersey Hospital Association is in support of A924, which allows Firefighter / Paramedics to function in the ALS capacity. A motion to “send a letter to the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services and the New Jersey Hospital Association, expressing our opposition to this bill” was approved.
- New Jersey Association of Paramedic Programs:** Recognition was given to Karen Halupke, Mike Ponte, Robert Wood Johnson and James O’Conner for receiving 2001 EMS Week Awards.
- (Mr. Hogan)
- EMS Council:** (Dr. Pruden) The Divert/Bypass Task Force is working on updating “A Full House” guideline with the Department of Health and Senior Services and the New Jersey Hospital Association. Also, options such as web pages that track Divert/Bypass in other states are being looked at for applicability in New Jersey.
- State Police radios have been given to all Trauma and Burn centers through a limited grant program.
- The EMT Training Fund has raised its EMT-Basic Program reimbursement to \$550.
- Congratulations were extended to all of the EMS Week Award winners.
- Helicopter Response Program:** We have all been very busy recently. Continued support and input into ways to improve the program are always welcome.
- (Dr. Hummel)
- OEMS:** (Ms. Way) Thank-you and congratulations were extended to all those who worked on the 2001 EMS Week Awards luncheon, the nominees and the recipients. The EMS-C conference was also held following the luncheon and was a great success. There was a large increase in participation from the school nurses with which EMS-C has been working closely.
- OEMS has been attending meetings on Divert/Bypass with other agencies. The committee will be looking at a web based reporting system and have more information for the next Council meeting.
- (Mr. McSweeney) Once the Standing Orders have been approved we hope to move forward in about four to six weeks.
- (Mr. McSweeney) There was a presentation on Electronic Charting and Data Collection.
- Education:** (Mr. Dinetz) There will be a Paramedic Exam Saturday, June 16th at the Toms River South High School. The New Jersey Safety Council has invited the Advanced Life Support community to piggyback an educational conference with their annual Health and Safety Expo in Atlantic City. If anyone is interested in organizing or participating in such an event please contact Mr. Dinetz at the OEMS. The Atlantic EMS Consortium is holding an EMS Education/Instruction conference on October 5th and 6th in Vienna, Virginia if anyone is interested.

Elections: (Dr. Pruden) Dr. Nevins was nominated and elected as Chairperson.
Dr. Gluckman and Dr. Waxler were nominated, and Dr. Waxler elected as Vice Chairperson.
Dr. Hummel and Jim Cupples were nominated and elected as the two Members-at-Large for the Executive Committee.

Other business: None

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Next Meeting

September 10, 2001 at 10 A.M.
New Jersey Hospital Association
Princeton, New Jersey

FYI

2002 Meeting Dates

March 11, 2002
June 10, 2002
September 9, 2002
December 9, 2002